



BARRINGTON, NH SELECT BOARD MINUTES

MONDAY, November 16th, 2020

The Select Board meeting for Monday, November 16th, 2020 began at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was held by remote participation via a Microsoft Teams Meeting due to the COVID-19 pandemic, in accordance with [Emergency Order #12](#), pursuant to [Executive Order 2020-04](#). In attendance were Vice-Chair Knapp, Selectperson Bailey, Selectperson Saccoccia, Town Administrator (TA) Maclver, Municipal Office Administrator (MOA) Caudle, as well as Advisory Budget Committee (ABC) members Dannen Mannschreck and Town Treasurer Peter Royce. Chairperson Hardekopf was excused from the meeting with advanced notice.

6:30pm. The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Knapp.

RSA 91-A EMERGENCY PROVISIONS/SELECT BOARD CHAIR EMERGENCY DETERMINATION

6:30pm. Vice-Chair Knapp read the emergency provisions of the State of Emergency and explained how this meeting is accessible as well as how to access future meetings.

ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE

6:33pm Select Board attendance was taken via Roll Call: Ayer – Present, Bailey – Present, Saccoccia – Present, Knapp – Present. Each Select Board member shared their location and stated that at present, they were alone in their respective rooms with no one influencing their votes. Selectperson Ayer was not present at the time of attendance. Chairperson Hardekopf was previously excused from the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

6:34pm. Vice-Chair Knapp led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Each of the below properties are being sold to abutters. At their October 15th and October 20th meetings, the [Conservation Commission](#) and [Planning Board](#), respectively, each voted to support the land sales pursuant to RSA 41:14-a. The final vote for the sale of these properties will be held at the November 30th, 2020 Select Board meeting.

Sale of Map 102-0062 Per RSA-41:14-a

A [Public Notice](#) was posted previously related to this property.

6:35pm. Public hearing opened. There were no comments from the Select Board or public.

6:36pm. Public hearing closed.

Sale of Map 112-0049 Per RSA-41:14-a

A [Public Notice](#) was posted previously related to this property.

6:36pm. Public hearing opened. There were no comments from the Select Board or public.

6:37pm. Public hearing closed.

Sale of Map 126-0018 Per RSA-41:14-a

A [Public Notice](#) was posted previously related to this property.

6:37pm. Public hearing opened. There were no comments from the Select Board or public.

6:38pm. Public hearing closed.

Sale of Map 273-0034 Per RSA-41:14-a

A [Public Notice](#) was posted previously related to this property.

6:38pm. Public hearing opened. There were no comments from the Select Board or public.

6:39pm. Public hearing closed.

APPOINTMENTS**Budget Presentation – Fire/EMS/Ambulance/Cemeteries**

6:39pm. Fire Chief Richard Walker began with facts about Barrington: On September 28th, 1944 Barrington Firefighting Association was formed to prevent further destruction by fire in Town. On November 7th, 1944 the Town voted to appropriate \$1,000 from surplus towards fire equipment including hoses and nozzles and a portable pump. Additionally, a 1,000-gallon oil tank was purchased by the Fireman's Association and was fitted to a truck gifted to the Town for use as a fire tank. Chief Walker also shared history of telephone service in Barrington, including the first dial phone call being placed by Barrington Select Board Chair Harold Flower after the previous hand-crank telephone station was replaced after a fire and the new one came online on December 18th, 1945. At that time, 150 phones were serviced by that station between Barrington and Strafford.

The Cemetery budget was reviewed, with no anticipated change from the 2020 budget.

Chief Walker then explained updates to the Fire/EMS/Ambulance budget, including wage changes. [Questions from the ABC](#) were answered, including the need for an increase in the line used for paramedic intercept when it currently appears to have a surplus.

The proposed contribution to the Fire Truck Capital Reserve increased \$5,000 to \$60,000; ABC member and Chief Walker suggested a further increase may be necessary to maintain the fund; the remainder will be requested at the same level as in 2020. Each warrant article will be reviewed at the November 30th, 2020 meeting.

All budget documents for the Fire/EMS/Ambulance/Cemeteries are available on the [2021 Budget](#) page.

PUBLIC COMMENT

7:16pm. *Public comments are limited to three minutes per person, and a total of 15 minutes.*

Fire Chief Rick Walker spoke to the planned Stuff-A-Truck toy drive on Saturday November 28th, a cooperative event between Fire & Rescue and Highway. Donations can be made to the toy drive, the Barrington Food Pantry, or End 68 Hours of Hunger. Donations will be accepted at the Transfer Station 8a-5p and the Public Safety Building 10a-2p.

There were no additional public comments. Public comment was closed at 7:29pm.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

7:19pm. Motion to approve minutes for [November 9th, 2020](#) Select Board Meeting by Selectperson Bailey, seconded by Vice Chair Knapp. Roll call vote: Ayer – Aye, Bailey – Aye, Knapp- Aye, Saccoccia – Aye. ***The motion passed.***

STAFF REPORTS

Land Sale Auction & Recreation Budget

7:20pm. Six properties and one fire truck will be sold at auction on December 12th, 2020 at 10am, with registration opening at 9:30am. Information about the properties can be found on the [Auctioneer's website](#), and the Town's [2020 Sale page](#). Any questions about the auction should be directed to the auctioneer.

The Recreation Department budget will be reviewed next meeting, all requests have been removed except wages and benefits. A full discussion of all warrant articles will be held as well as a discussion of expected revenues and expected Unassigned Fund Balance (UFB) contribution.

Request for Signatures

7:22pm. MOA Caudle requested signatures for the following:

- Meeting Minutes approved this meeting.
- 2020 Equalization Certificate.
- Strafford County Tax Apportionment Receipt
- Atlantic Broadband Fiber Contract

OLD BUSINESS

Barrington, NH – Town Government Facebook Page

7:23pm. The [Town's Official Facebook page](#) is live! Select Board members are encouraged to submit suggestions for content to TA Maclver and/or MOA Caudle, as well as encourage others to utilize the page for information. We intend to profile the properties that will be auctioned

NEW BUSINESS

2019 Financial Audit Review

7:24pm. The 2019 Financial Audit was one of the cleanest in years, representing the hard work of the Finance Office. In [response](#) to a concern raised in the [2019 Financial Audit](#), Treasurer Peter Royce will be training Municipal Office Administrator Caudle as the Town's Deputy Treasurer, to take on the role by January 1st, 2020.

Reverse Involuntary Lot Merger – Map 206, Lot 15

7:28pm. The tax implications of merged lots and current use were discussed. Per [RSA 674:39-aa](#) Involuntarily merged lots can be restored to their premerger status at the request of their owner if a request is sent to the governing body of the Town prior to December 31st, 2021.

Motion to reverse the [involuntary merger of Map 206, Lot 15](#) by Selectperson Bailey, seconded by Vice Chair Knapp. Roll call vote: Ayer – Aye, Bailey – Aye, Knapp- Aye, Saccoccia – Aye. ***The motion passed.***

2020 Preliminary Assessment Ratio

7:35. Due to an unprecedented property price surge, pending the finalization of the 2020 Equalized Ratio, the Board may need to commission a statistical update for 2021 in order to keep the assessed values in line with the market value. [The Preliminary Ratio Report for 2020](#) is available on the Town's website.

Intersection Sidewalk and Safety Project Support Letter

7:39pm. The Select Board was asked to consider authorizing a letter of support for the proposed project, sidewalks and safety improvements at the intersection of Routes 125 and 9. The Select Board is unable to force the hand of a future Select Board, this would be a letter of support with no monetary commitment at this time. A future Board would have to commit to utilizing funds. The Board discussed potential future development of the area and the costs associated with maintenance.

Motion to authorize a letter of support for the proposed sidewalk and safety improvement project contingent upon the project being revisited by the Planning Board by Selectperson Saccoccia, seconded by Selectperson Ayer. Roll call vote: Ayer – Aye, Bailey – Aye, Knapp- Aye, Saccoccia – Aye. ***The motion passed.***

SELECTPERSONS REPORTS

7:56pm.

Selectperson Ayer – Conservation Commission, Town Lands, and the Library Trustees have not met.

Selectperson Bailey – No meetings in past week.

Selectperson Saccoccia – Recreation is doing well, 8 days until Recreation Director Jessie Tennis returns from leave.

Vice-Chair Knapp – Will attend the Planning Board meeting tomorrow.

PUBLIC COMMENT

7:58pm.

James Saccoccia – previously stated he would be paid for election to donate earnings to the Barrington Food Pantry, instead will make a personal donation.

Daniel Ayer – will not accept payment for the election work.

George Bailey – would also not accept payment for the election work.

There were no further public comments. Public comment closed at 7:59pm.

NONPUBLIC SESSION

7:59pm. Motion to enter non-public session for reasons of reputation and legal by Vice-Chair Knapp, seconded by Selectperson Saccoccia. The Board agreed by consensus to enter non-public.

RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION AND ADJOURNMENT

8:55pm. The Select Board returned to the meeting from nonpublic session.

Motion to seal nonpublic minutes indefinitely to avoid adversely affecting the reputation of those discussed by Selectperson Bailey, seconded by Vice-Chair Knapp. Roll call vote: Ayer – Aye, Bailey – Aye, Knapp- Aye, Saccoccia – Aye. ***The motion passed.***

Select Board has committed to reviewing nonpublic minutes which have been previously sealed to see if circumstances have changed to allow minutes to be made public as soon as possible to maintain openness and transparency. Due to Covid-19 precautions, the review has been delayed.

8:57pm. Motion to adjourn the Select Board meeting by Selectperson Bailey, seconded by Vice-Chair Knapp. Roll call vote: Ayer – Aye, Bailey – Aye, Knapp- Aye, Saccoccia – Aye. ***The motion passed.***

Links to all reviewed documents can be found in the November 16th, 2020 [Town Administrator's Report](#).

Not Present
Chairperson T. Hardekopf


Selectperson G. Bailey


Vice-Chairperson A. Knapp

Selectperson D. Ayer


Selectperson J. Saccoccia

11/30/2020
Date Minutes Were Approved